

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5

1. A data converter comprising:

a data conversion unit;
a timer unit which counts time; and
a lock system which locks a data

10 conversion function of said data conversion unit in
a disabled state based on the time counted by said
timer unit.

15

2. The data converter as claimed in claim
1, further comprising a lock release system which
releases a lock on the data conversion function set
20 by said lock system so that the data conversion
function is set in an enabled state.

25

3. The data converter as claimed in claim
2, wherein said lock release system comprises:
a data input unit through which
identification data is input;
30 a recording unit which records reference
data for identification used to release the lock on
the data conversion function; and
a control unit which collates the
identification data input from said data input unit
35 with the reference data for identification, and
releases the lock on the data conversion function
when the identification data is identical to the

reference data for identification.

5

4. The data converter as claimed in claim 3, wherein said data input unit is formed of entry keys by which numbers, letters, and signs are entered.

10

5. The data converter as claimed in claim
15 3, wherein said data input unit is a plane
coordinate input unit which is touched to allow
input of data using coordinates of touched positions.

20

6. The data converter as claimed in claim 3, wherein said data input unit is an input/display unit comprising:

25

a plane coordinate input panel which is transparent and is touched to allow input of data using coordinates of touched positions; and

a display which is provided on a rear side of said plane coordinate input panel to display numbers, letters, and signs.

30

35

7. The data converter as claimed in claim 3, wherein said data input unit is a fingerprint input unit to which an image of a fingerprint of a

user is input.

5

8. The data converter as claimed in claim
7, wherein:

10 said fingerprint input unit comprises a
fingerprint input screen to which the finger of the
user is applied to input the fingerprint of the
finger, the fingerprint input screen being divided
into pixels to measure static electricity of each of
the pixels so that the image of the fingerprint is
input.

15

20 9. The data converter as claimed in claim
7, wherein said fingerprint input unit comprises a
fingerprint input screen to which the finger of the
user is applied to input the fingerprint of the
finger, and optically acquires the image of the
fingerprint of the finger applied to the fingerprint
25 input screen so that the image of the fingerprint is
input.

30

35 10. The data converter as claimed in
claim 2, wherein said lock release system comprises:
a recording unit which records reference
data for identification used to release the lock on
the data conversion function; and
a control unit which collates
identification data input to and transmitted from a

~~computer connected to the data converter with the reference data for identification, and releases the lock on the data conversion function when the identification data is identical to the reference data for identification~~

5

10 11. The data converter as claimed in claim 10, wherein the computer includes an input unit through which the reference data for identification and the identification data are input.

15

20 12. The data converter as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a time setting unit which sets a waiting time before the data conversion function is disabled.

25

25 13. The data converter as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a time setting unit which sets a waiting time before the data conversion function is disabled.

30

35 14. The data converter as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a display unit which displays whether said lock system is in operation.

BB →

~~15. The data converter as claimed in
claim 2, further comprising a display unit which
displays whether said lock system is in operation.~~

5

16. A computer with a data leakage
prevention function, comprising:

10 a data converter, said data converter
comprising:

a data conversion unit;

a timer unit which counts time; and

a lock system which locks said a

15 conversion function of said data conversion unit in
a disabled state based on the time counted by said
timer unit.

20

17. The computer as claimed in claim 16,
wherein said data converter further comprises a lock
release system which releases a lock on the data
25 conversion function set by said lock system so that
the data conversion function is set in an enabled
state.

BB →